

Student Library Committee, Now An Important Unit Of A. & M. Student Government, Releases Annual Report; Improvements Shown Over 1938-1939

General Reading Fund For Past Year Reached New High Of \$621.80

By George Fuermann
Secretary, Student Library Committee

With the presentation of its annual report, the Student Library Committee concluded its second year of activity at the close of the 1939-40 long session last June. During that period the five-man committee, now an important unit of A. & M. student government, directed the expenditure of \$621.80 for books and record additions to the Carnegie Music Room; stabilized its own organization with the adoption of a constitution; made tentative plans for securing further contributions during the 1940-41 long session and generally acted as an advisory body to library officials where cadet sentiment and opinion was concerned.

During the past year the members of the committee were Tom S. Richards, Houston, senior class representative; J. P. Ledbetter, Waco, junior class representative; Paul O. Egner, Houston, sophomore class representative; R. M. Shuffler, Odessa, freshman class representative; and George Fuermann, Laredo, student publications representative. Class representatives serve for four-year terms and the student publications representative serves for a two-year term. The terms of Ledbetter and Fuermann expire in 1941, Egner in 1942, and Shuffler in 1943. The student publications representative automatically becomes the committee's only officer, that of secretary.

Meeting each month throughout the nine months of the long session, the committee's faculty advisor is Dr. T. F. Mayo, Librarian.

The Annual Report, September, 1939, Through June 1940

During the 1938-39 long session (the Student Library Committee's first year of existence) the Cushing Memorial Library received for the General Reading Fund a total in contributions of \$285.40. Of this amount, \$141.69 was spent during the fiscal year 1938-39 for books. The balance, \$143.80, was held over for the fiscal year 1939-40. From September, 1939, through

June, 1940, the Library received a total of \$463 in contributions. With the balance remaining from the 1938-39 fiscal year, the total of the General Reading Fund reached \$621.80. The following is submitted as an accounting of this amount:

For 209 books purchased and placed in circulation	\$356.36
Estimate for 31 books on order	68.11
Reserve, to be spent before August 31, for records	87.77
Expended for repairs to the victrola in the Carnegie Music Room	3.92
Expended for subscriptions for the year 1940 to two magazine (Esquire and Fortune—this done at the request of the donor)	15.00
Reserve to be carried over to the fiscal year 1940-41 (to be spent for books only)	90.64
TOTAL	\$621.80

With few exceptions, all books purchased through the General Reading Fund were done so through student requests. The General Reading Fund is subscribed to by the various A. & M. mother's clubs and, as such, the Student Library Committee's policy has been to spend this money in a manner delegated directly by the student body. A box was conspicuously placed in the main lobby of the Library and through this medium students were enabled to request those books which they wished to see added to the Library.

At the committee's November meeting it was unanimously voted that each year a portion of the General Reading Fund be set aside to make additions to and replacements for the Carnegie Music Room collection of records. This was deemed necessary for two reasons. First, the Carnegie Music Room had grown to be both an important part of the Library and an equally important part of student activity and entertainment, but no money had ever been made

A. & M. Mothers' Clubs Contributed \$478 To Fund During 1939-40

available to increase the collection of records. Second, records were occasionally broken and, as it is contrary to the Library's policy to charge a student for a broken record, these were never replaced. In the case of the records, as in the case of the books, student suggestions were solicited through a box placed in the music room.

In future years ten percent of the total amount of the General Reading Fund will be expended for record additions and replacements. During the first year of this appropriation, however, (1939-40) 15 percent was spent for this purpose. This amounted to \$87.77 as indicated on the expense report.

Donations to the General Reading Fund from September, 1939, through June, 1940, came from the following A. & M. mothers' clubs:

Fort Worth A. & M. Mothers' Club	\$ 50.00
Dallas A. & M. Mothers' Club	75.00
Sonora A. & M. Mothers' Club	110.00
San Angelo A. & M. Mothers' Club	50.00
Temple A. & M. Mothers' Club	5.00
San Antonio A. & M. Mothers' Club	25.00
Brazos County A. & M. Mothers' Club	35.00
McLennan County A. & M. Mothers' Club	5.00
Grayson County A. & M. Mothers' Club	7.30
Capitol A. & M. Mothers' Club (Austin)	15.00
Houston A. & M. Mothers' Club	75.00
Amarillo A. & M. Mothers' Club	15.00
Anonymous	10.50
Total	\$478.00

As reported in the expense account, the committee has a balance of \$90.64 to begin the 1940-41 long session with.

Tulane University engineering students have constructed a working model of the spillway of the \$12,000,000 Conchas dam.

Dean Puryear—

(Continued from page 1)

He was born near Boydton, Virginia, October 21, 1880, one of a family of eleven children, of whom three brothers and three sisters younger than himself are now living.

Boydton at that time was the seat of Randolph-Macon College in which his father was professor of chemistry and chairman of the faculty for many years, and Richmond College (now the University of Richmond).

Charles Puryear (pronounced Pur-ear, with an accent on the last syllable) was awarded his M.A. degree by Richmond College in 1881 when he was only 21. He then entered the University of Virginia where he earned his professional degree of Civil Engineer. Following that he attended summer sessions at Harvard, Pennsylvania, and Columbia Universities, taking advanced courses in mathematics.

Next he spent four years teaching in private academies in Virginia. In 1888-89 he was an instructor in mathematics at the University of Michigan. In 1889 he came to Texas A. & M., where he has held the following positions: 1889-90, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and Physics (the two were then a double department); 1890-1930, Head of the Department of Mathematics; 1913-14, President pro-tem of the College; 1923-32, Dean of the Graduate School; and since 1932, Dean Emeritus of the College.

Dean Puryear was the author, with Dr. T. U. Taylor (now Dean Emeritus at the University of Texas), of the mathematics text "Plane and Spherical Trigonometry". He is the past president of the Association of Texas Colleges, a member of Phi Beta Kappa (national honorary scholarship fraternity); also of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, the Academy of Political and Social Science, the American Mathematical Society, the Philosophical Society of Texas and other organizations. He is listed in "Who's Who in America", "Who's Who in Education", "American Men of Science" and "American Authors."

Dean Puryear introduced tennis to A. & M. the year he came here. In 1894 he was manager of the Aggie football team. In his own college days he played baseball

and football. He was a tennis player and a horseman for many years. Chess is his favorite game.

He has traveled considerably in a number of countries, including Canada, Mexico, the European countries and every part of the United States. In 1916 he traveled through England, France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany and Holland; and in 1928 he visited England and Scotland.

In 1911 Dean Puryear got special permission from the college to build and own a home on the campus. Such a privilege has never been accorded any other person.

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Glen Wells Players Are Second On Entertainment Series Next Monday

The second program of the 1940 Summer Entertainment Series will be under way Monday morning, July 15 at 10:10 in the Assembly Hall as the Glen Wells Players present a three-act comedy, "Mrs. Plimpton's Husband".

Authored by Robert Morrel Sand, New York playwright, the play is based on the domestic problems of the Plimpton family and is described as "a hilarious comedy... many clever turns and surprises."

Glen and Mara Wells have been stock favorites from coast to coast for many years. With them this year is Frances Noble who has toured with the company several seasons in the past. The fourth member of the cast is Paul Imig, member of a well-known theatrical family, whose mother was Mabel Pelham, a leading stock actress for many years.

Like all Summer Entertainment Series programs, this will be free and classes will be dismissed to

allow all summer school students and faculty members to attend the play.

More than 800 persons attended the first program on 1940's Summer Series when the Imperial Singers appeared here Tuesday, June 25.

Special Meeting of Summer Press Club Called Tonight at 8

A special meeting of the Summer Press Club has been announced by president Peggy Campbell. The meeting will be held tonight at The Battalion Office beginning promptly at 8 o'clock. "All members are urged to attend as the meeting is of considerable importance," Miss Campbell said.

Gifts to the building fund of Goucher College, Baltimore, have passed \$300,000.



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